

INITIAL APPEARANCE HEARINGS

2004

The following tables present information on the reviews of commitments by the Intake and Court Services unit of the Youth Authority's Institution and Camps Branch. Staff in Intake and Court Services determine the offender's offense category and parole consideration date (PCD) under established guidelines. The Youth Authority Board (YAB) reviews the decision, and makes any adjustments deemed necessary. During 2004, a total of 828 initial reviews were conducted. In the case of parole violators and recommitments, the YAB conducts the initial hearing concurrently with the parole revocation hearing. During 2004, there were 786 such hearings.

Depending upon the circumstances of the offense, a Supplemental Initial Appearance hearing may be conducted by the YAB at which a PCD can be extended or reduced. During 2004, the YAB held no Supplemental hearings.

The time from the offender's acceptance by the Youth Authority to the PCD given, is referred to as the PCD interval. Table 1 summarizes PCD intervals given at Initial Appearance hearings, while Table 2 normally summarizes PCD modifications made at Supplemental Initial hearings. **Since, during 2004, no Supplemental Initial hearings were held, there is no Table 2.**

The YAB has established seven categories of offenses (Board Hearing Categories) in order of seriousness, with Category I being the most serious. The YAB has also established PCD guidelines for each category, e.g., 84 months for Category I. Deviations are allowed based on the circumstances of each offense.

An offense may be listed in more than one category, depending upon the circumstances of the crime. For example, burglary while armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon *and* with substantial injury is in Category III; burglary while armed with a dangerous or deadly weapon *or* resulting in substantial injury is in Category IV; first degree burglary is in Category V; and second degree burglary is in Category VI.

The table shows the baseline PCD guidelines in effect in 2004; the number and percentage of offenders in each category; the average PCD time given for each category and offense; and the number of offenders whose PCD interval was below, at, or above the baseline PCD guidelines.

Please note: Though technically a part of Category VII, parole violator returns are displayed separately.

TABLE 1
PAROLE CONSIDERATION DATE INTERVALS AT INITIAL REVIEWS
BY YAB CATEGORY AND COMMITMENT OFFENSE
2004

YAB CATEGORY AND COMMITMENT OFFENSE	TOTAL HEARINGS	PERCENT	AVERAGE MONTHS	BELOW GUIDELINE	AT GUIDELINE	ABOVE GUIDELINE
TOTAL	1,636	100.0	14.3	183	1,421	4
Total First Commitments	828	50.6	22.5	183	643	2
Category I (84 months)	17	1.0	80.1	4	13	-
Murder 1st	11		80.6	3	8	-
Murder 2nd	6		79.3	1	5	-
Kidnap (Death/Great Bodily Injury)	-		-	-	-	-
Others	-		-	-	-	-
Category II (48 months)	94	5.7	40.8	32	62	-
Voluntary Manslaughter	5		48.0	-	5	-
Attempt/Assault to Murder	17		48.0	-	17	-
Rape	11		48.0	-	11	-
Child Molesting	55		36.2	31	24	-
Sodomy/Sex Perversion	1		48.0	-	1	-
Extortion/Kidnap	4		48.0	-	4	-
Others	-		-	-	-	-
Category III (36 months)	70	4.3	32.8	14	56	-
Manslaughter- Vehicular	-		-	-	-	-
Robbery (Enhanced)	9		36.0	-	9	-
Carjacking	24		33.5	3	21	-
Aggravated Assault	-		-	-	-	-
Rape	10		34.1	2	8	-
Sex Perversion	7		27.7	5	2	-
Extortion/Kidnap	-		-	-	-	-
Others	20		31.8	4	16	-
Category IV (24 months)	243	14.9	22.2	46	196	1
Manslaughter	5		28.4	1	3	1
Robbery (Enhanced)	46		23.1	5	41	-
Robbery (Unenhanced)	49		22.2	8	41	-
Aggravated Assault	76		22.1	14	62	-
Discharge/Display Weapon	6		24.0	-	6	-
Burglary First Degree	11		22.7	3	8	-
Narcotic Offenses	12		20.5	4	8	-
Marijuana Offenses	5		21.6	1	4	-
Arson	7		21.4	2	5	-
Others	26		20.3	8	18	-
Category V (18 months)	230	14.1	15.8	85	144	1
Robbery (Enhanced)	-		-	-	-	-
Robbery (Unenhanced)	37		15.4	16	21	-
Attempted Robbery	8		17.3	1	7	-
Aggravated Assault	60		15.5	24	36	-
Battery	27		16.9	5	22	-
Burglary (1 st Degree)	66		15.9	23	43	-
Grand Theft	7		14.6	4	3	-
Others	25		15.4	12	12	1
Category VI (12 months)	168	10.3	12.0	2	166	-
Assault	6		12.0	-	6	-
Miscellaneous Assault Offenses	7		12.0	-	7	-
Burglary	20		11.8	1	19	-
Grand Theft	8		12.0	-	8	-
Receiving Stolen Property	11		12.0	-	11	-
Auto Theft	32		12.0	-	32	-
Dangerous Drugs	7		12.0	-	7	-
Weapons	38		11.9	1	37	-
Others	9		12.0	-	9	-
Category VII (0-12 months)	6	0.4	11.5	-	6	-
Others	6		11.5	-	6	-
Parole Violator Returns (0-12 months)	780	47.6	5.5	-	778	2
Recommitments	28	1.7	19.6			